


**REMARKS**

The above-referenced application is amended to delete the multiple-dependency of claims 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 to avoid multiple dependent claim filing fee, and to amend pages 19, 20, and 36 of the specification. Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the claims and specification. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED APPLICATION**

**THE CLAIMS HAVE BEEN AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

3. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 [or 2] wherein at a front end portion and at a back end portion in the longitudinal direction of said article, said standing portion is fixed on an article body facing the centerline of said article, and said contacting portion folds back halfway so as to be fixed on said standing portion.

4. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 [any one of Claims 1 to 3] wherein said stretching members on said contacting portion are arranged so as to be spaced each other in the standing direction and said stretching members on said standing portion are arranged so as to be spaced each other in the standing direction, respectively.

9. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 7 [or 8] wherein the stretching stress of said base line-side stretching member is larger than that of said distal edge stretching member.

10. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 7 [or 8] wherein when the elongation of a portion provided with said distal edge stretching members is 60 % to 150 %, its stretching stress is 0.10 N to 1.30 N (per the width of 15 mm and the length of 100 mm), and when the elongation of a portion provided with the said base line-side stretching members is 60 % to 150 %, its stretching stress is 0.20 N to 2.00 N (per the width of 15 mm and the length of 100 mm), and said stretching stress of said latter portion is larger than that of said former portion.

12. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 [any one of Claims 1 to 11] wherein a plane-gathering cuff is provided outboard with respect to said standing cuff.

13. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 [any one of Claims 1 to 11] wherein a plane-gathering cuff is not provided outboard with respect to said standing cuff.

16. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 14 [or 15] wherein said free portion of said standing cuff has the longitudinal length of at least 10 mm.

17. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 14 [any one of Claims 14 to 16] wherein the stretching stress of said base line-side stretching member is larger than that of said distal edge stretching member.

18. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 14 [any one of Claims 14 to 16] wherein the elongation of a portion provided with said distal edge stretching members is 20 % to 90 %, its stretching stress is 0.05 N to 1.00 N (per the width of 15 mm and the length of 100 mm), and when the elongation of a portion provided with said base line-side stretching members is 20 % to 90 %, its stretching stress is 0.10 N to 1.50 N (per the width of 15 mm and the length of 100 mm), and said stretching stress of said latter portion is larger than that of said former portion.

19. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 14 [any one of Claims 14 to 18] wherein in the longitudinal direction of the article the outer edge of an end portion of a fixed portion of said standing cuff for waist is inboard with respect to the edge of an end portion of said article with the distance of 1 mm to 40 mm.

20. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 14 [any one of Claims 14 to 19] wherein said standing cuff has a double standing sheet and said distal edge stretching members and said base line-side stretching members are fixed within said double standing sheet.

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Lines 5-12 of page 19 have been amended as follows:

In addition, in such lifted state, the contracting force by the stretching members 5, 5 . . . is applied to the standing cuff B itself. Therefore, the standing portion 10 is able to stand in the substantially vertical direction. The surface-contacting portion 20 also stands vertically. However, since the portion corresponding to the surface-contacting portion (the extension of the surface-contacting portion 20) being folded back and inverted is fixed to the portion corresponding to the standing portion 20A, vertical standing is limited and the surface-contacting portion 20 stands facing outward and keeping the standing force in the vertical direction (shown with an arrow in Fig. 2 [3]).

Lines 14-22 of page 20 have been amended as follows:

Fig. 4 depicts the second embodiment. The second embodiment differs from the first embodiment in that the diaper of the second embodiment is provided with a plane-gathering cuff G which is gathered by means of the contracting force by stretching members 5D, 5D . . . and brought into surface-contact with the wearer's skin, and in that the diaper is provided with the stretching member 5C in the vicinity of the edge where the surface-contacting portion 20 folds back halfway as indicated as a modified example of the standing cuff B itself. Such provision of the stretching member 5C gives an advantage of reliable surface-contact of a surface-contacting portion 20.

Lines 8-18 of page 36 have been amended as follows:

In the longitudinally outboard portion of the internal side of the double standing sheet 6 is fixed to the longitudinally extended back end portion of the liquid pervious top sheet 1 with e.g. hot melt adhesive. In this embodiment, the liquid pervious top sheet 1 longitudinally extends beyond the back end of the absorbent core 3 so as to form a waist flap F. The internal side standing sheet 6 is fixed to the waist flap WF. Therefore, as shown in Fig. 27, a proximal edge E2 of the standing cuff WB for the wearer's waist is disposed on the waist flap F. The longitudinally inboard portion with respect to the proximal edge E2 defines a standing portion WZ, which is not fixed to the diaper body but free therefrom. It is preferable that the length L of the standing portion ZW in the longitudinal direction of the article is at least 10mm. Particularly in the case of a diaper, the length L is preferably 30mm to 80mm.